

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention involves identifying media type in a media processing device. A system according to one embodiment of the invention includes a thermal energy source and a thermal energy sensor. The thermal energy source and thermal energy sensor are arranged along a media feed path so as to accommodate transfer of thermal energy to the media by the thermal energy source, diffusion of such thermal energy, and subsequent sensing of such diffused thermal energy to determine a heat capacity of the media, such heat capacity being indicative of media type.